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To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/16/02 6:32pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Microsoft should be required to open their APIs to the public.

There should be monitoring into their business practices for a significant period of time, 5 years minimum.

Their practice of forcing OEMs to pay for a version of Windows on every box sold should be eliminated entirely. Major vendors should be able to ship OS free boxes without a penalty.

Their level of interoperability with other Operating Systems is questionable at best. Although much improved since the DOJ cases inception, it is still rife with hidden difficulties. They often mention their adherence to industry standards but in practice there is usually enough of a difference to make inter platform operations more complex than they need to be.

I also feel that a cash settlement should be enforced. It should be restricted to cash only, in a trust fund to be overseen by an independent party. A party not easily influenced.

Thank you
Terry A. Zach